

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A pixel value change processing section corrects the value of a current pixel in an input image so that the

5 size of a code produced by a coding processing section is reduced, and outputs a changed pixel value. When

predictive coding is employed, the pixel value change processing section outputs the same pixel value as that

which is predicted by a predictor. When arithmetic coding

10 is employed, the pixel value change processing section

outputs a pixel value at which a dominant symbol is

obtained in the arithmetic coding. The coding processing

section produces a code from the changed pixel value 310.

The pixel value change processing section produces an

15 error value between the current pixel value and the

changed pixel value. An error distribution processing

section produces an error distribution value from the

error value and adds the error distribution value to the

pixel value of the input image.